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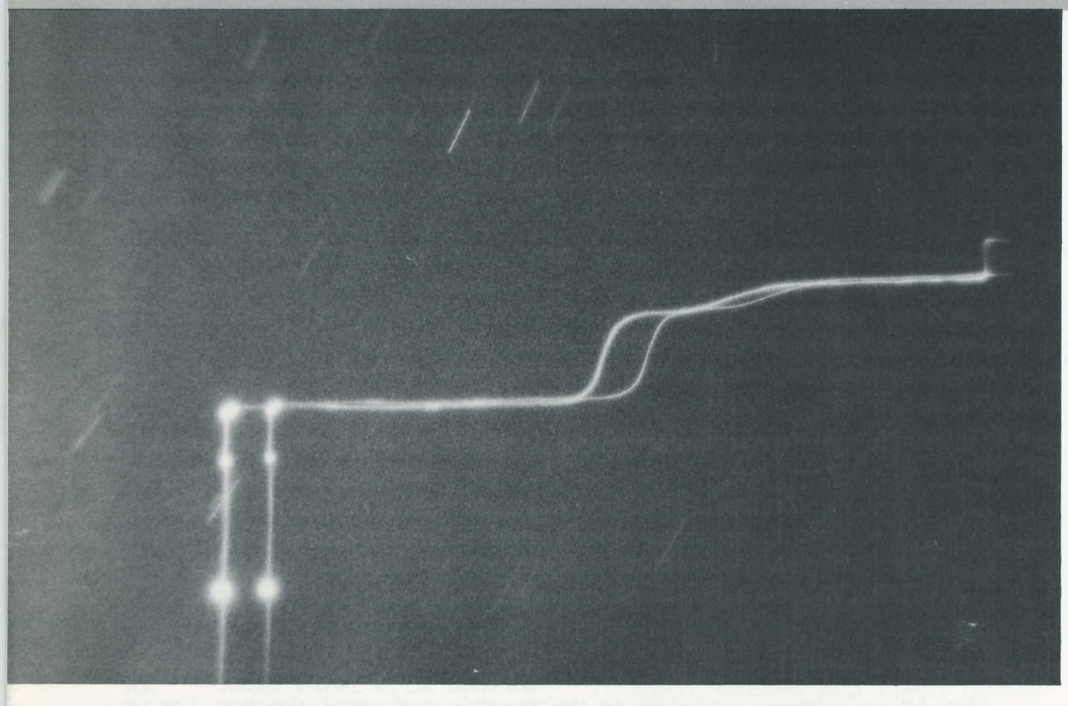

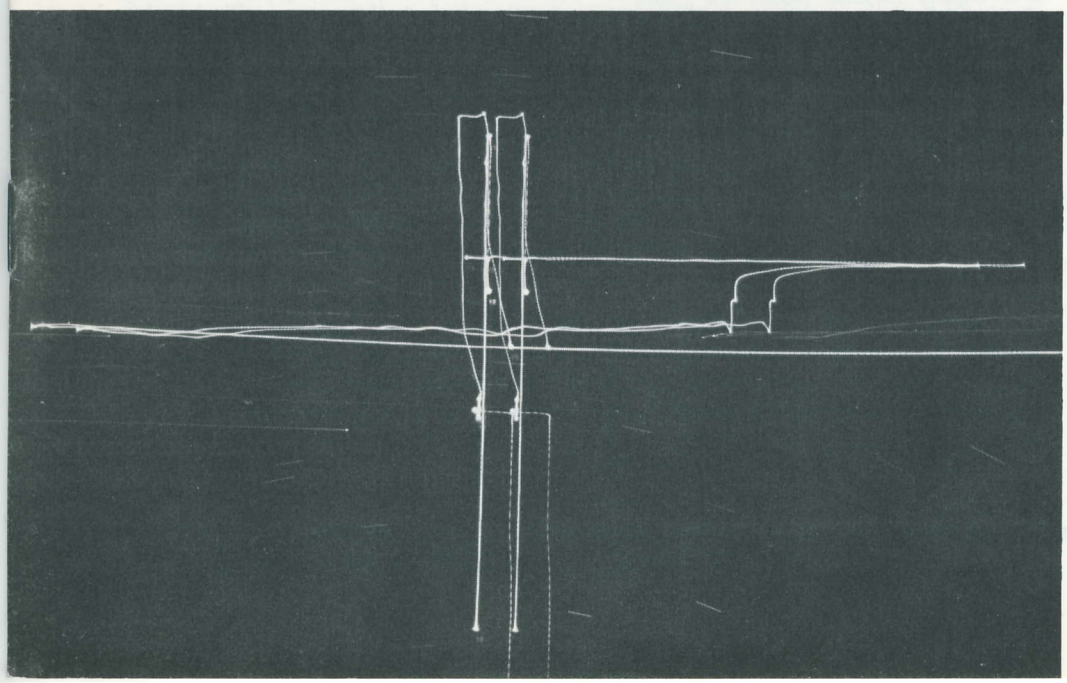

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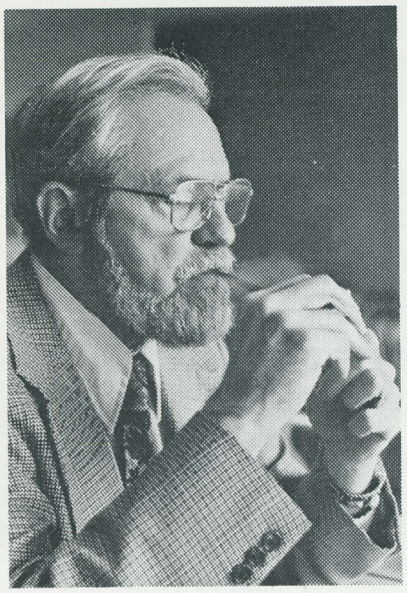
EDITORIAL



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A Qualifying Exam For UFO Skeptics!

No scientist respected in his field would seriously consider giving a scientific opinion on some matter not in his own area of expertise unless he had studied the matter for himself and was familiar with the previous respected work done in that area. It is one of the axioms of science that one does not make statements he wishes to be taken seriously about scientific matters without a masterful familiarity with the subject matter.

This axiom seems to hold everywhere in the scientific world but the UFO phenomenon seems to be a notable exception. Here scientists and uninformed laymen alike feel free to pontificate far and wide...everybody can pose as an instant expert! An astrophysicist, for example, would not think of expressing an expert opinion on brain surgery or other medical matters, nor would a brain surgeon attempt to speak learnedly about magnetohydrodynamics! Yet both types can be found who have definite opinions (expressed, of course, as facts) about UFOs without being in the least qualified to do so.

I once had the opportunity of having lunch with a very prominent, and very publicly visible, scientist when, as it often does in my presence, the subject of UFOs came up. As you might expect, our respected scientist promptly and with scorn in his voice put down the whole subject. So, as calmly as I could, I asked him first what he thought of such-and-such a UFO case (well known to ufologists) and then another, and another. He hadn't heard of any of them! Nor had he done any serious reading on the subject. So I gently chided him (for, after all, he was a great and to-be-respected scientist) about the axiomatic need in science to be familiar with a subject before speaking out about it with seeming authority. Yes, I know, he admitted, but I don't have time for that sort of stuff! Hardly a scientific attitude!

It is also axiomatic practice in science that any statement can be challenged and the speaker called to task if the speaker or writer proves himself deficient in background knowledge on the subject. Maybe we should have a qualifying exam for UFO skeptics and those who loudly pontificate on the subject. Maybe we should have a similar exam for proponents of the subject who run off at the mouth spouting theories and facts without adequate knowledge. The latter can do as much, or even more, damage to serious consideration of the subject than do the skeptics.

But, let us address ourselves to the familiar and vocal skeptics. Let us demand that they pass a qualifying examination before they are entitled to be listened to seriously. What UFO cases are you intimately acquainted with (meaning, in how many case investigations did you get out into the field and actually spend time with the witnesses, individually, and at the exact site of the sighting?) Have you studied (not just scanned) the following books...etc.? What are the significant features of such-and-such a case, and how do they relate to the general pattern of similar cases? Describe the salient features of the Exeter, N.H. case (if he doesn't know what we are referring to he flunks right away!) and how and by whom were they investigated? How many similar cases can you describe? Describe them.

We could continue: Name three UFO journals. How long have you been reading them? Who are the editors? Who are some of the prominent ufologists in England, Italy, Spain etc.? (An astronomer, for example, could certainly tell you of prominent astronomers in those countries and describe the work they have been doing).

..... Skeptics!

How did Dr. Condon define the term UFO? How do you define it? Have you read the Condon report from cover to cover, or just Dr. Condon's summary...if even that? What was the Robertson Panel? Who was Dr. James McDonald?

From time to time the exam questions could be varied, so no one could bone up on the answers!

In all other fields of scientific endeavor qualifying exams of one sort or another are common; a person must prove his right to be heard seriously. It is time a check be put on the rampant, arrogant ignorance of UFO skeptics (and, indeed, on that of some of their counterparts on the other side of the table). And, when some public personage or scientist makes statements about the UFO phenomenon, we are certainly entitled to ask the simple question: What are his qualifications? Has he passed his qualifying exam?

How We Define UFOS:

A UFO is any anomalous aerial phenomena whose appearances and/or behaviours cannot be ascribed to conventional natural or man-made causes either by the original witnesses or by other technically trained analysts after thorough investigation using the best techniques and equipment currently available.

NL — Nocturnal Light: a distant anomalous light seen in the night sky.

DD — Daylight Disc: a distant object seen under daylight conditions, often disc-shaped.

RV — Radar/Visual: UFOs detected visually and by Radar simultaneously. Good agreement between the two accounts is essential.

CE I — Close Encounter of the First Kind: a UFO seen within 500 feet.

CE II — Close Encounter of the Second Kind: a CE I which includes a verifiable change in the environment such as physical traces, physiological effects and electromagnetic interferences.

CE III — Close Encounter of the Third Kind: a CE I or II including the report of associated creatures, humanoids or robots.

How To Report UFOS:

Witnesses to a suspected UFO sighting should, if possible, do the following:

1) Locate and identify by names and addresses other witnesses to the sighting.
2) Photograph the object, the site, and any physical traces observed from several locations, including trees and buildings, using all film available, stabilized against movement during time exposures, preserve negatives for examination, record details of camera, lens and setting and film type.
3) As soon as possible, write down all details of the event, including time, duration, location, area sketch, orientation, weather and object details, such as color, sound, shape and approximate size.
4) Report the sighting promptly by calling our 24-hour number in Evanston, Illinois, (312) 491-6666, or write to CUFOS, P.O. Box 1402, Evanston, IL 60204.

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One Hundred Thousand Students To Ponder The UFO Question

"UFO's: What About Them?" has been chosen as the first of three questions to be tackled in the 1982-83 "Future Problem Solving Program" by some 100,000 talented students, aged 9 to 18, from across the United States and Canada. Student teams first compete locally, then regionally, and finally some 500 will be chosen as finalists to attend the Future Problem Solving bowl at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa next June. The Center has been asked to assist in providing responsible information to the contestants on books and other source material.

Student teams involved in Future Problem Solving first attempt to define the given problem which may, at first, appear to them as a fuzzy mess. This is the first step in their training as problem solvers. Next they " brainstorm" and list possible solutions to the problem (and here the sky is the limit). Sorting and evaluation of ideas comes next, and finally the students must attempt to "sell" their solutions to a panel of judges. (It would seem that in this particular problem, the judges should also be furnished responsible information!)

The fact that the problem of UFOs was chosen out of many possible questions attests to the keen interest young people have in this question. While the Dr. Condons and other skeptics of the world may say (as Dr. Condon actually did) that UFOs are not a fitting subject for study, especially by young people, the fact of the matter is that young students will study what they are interested in, and UFOs rate high on their list.

We will keep our readers posted on how this question-grappling progresses. IUR

LETTERS will appear in the next issue of the IUR.

March-April Cover Photo Mystery Solved

Mark Rodeghier

A positive but mundane identification of the Pring UFO photo, the cover illustration on our March-April issue, has been arrived at as a result of tests, made on location by Dr. Hynek and myself, in Mr. Pring's presence. The photo, however, seems not to be a hoax but a misidentification, and the full story may still be unfolding, as Pring now claims a possible CE-III experience, including a period of missing time and an abduction. But first, to the photograph.

On March 31, 1982, Dr. Hynek and I traveled to Anderson, IN, Mr. Pring's home town, to meet with him and discuss the sighting and his technique in the taking of the photograph. After a preliminary stop at the site with Mr. Pring in the daylight to get the "lay of the land" and to see exactly how he had set up his tripod and camera, we arranged for a night visit to the site to re-enact the event and to take control and test photographs.

Earlier that evening we had a chance to meet with many of Pring's friends and neighbors who had expressed a desire to meet us. As could be expected, accounts of a number of unreported UFO sightings "came out of the woodwork" that evening...unverifiable, but intriguing. More important from our immediate standpoint was the unanimous opinion of those present (obtained, of course, out of earshot of Mr. Pring) that Rupert L. Pring does not make up stories to garner attention, has been a respectable member of the community for over twenty years, and has sought no publicity for himself or his photos. These comments only served to reinforce our initial perception of him as a man to be trusted, who would not knowingly falsify details concerning his UFO sighting.

Blessed with a clear sky the night of March 31, we traveled with Mr. Pring to the exact original site, a friend's farm about five miles south of Anderson (not far enough, however, to avoid the glow from the lights of that city which appears on the first three of Pring's nine photos). Between 11 P.M. and midnight, we made a number of test shots with both the camera Pring had used and Hynek's stereo camera. With the help of the light of the moon, we took tripod-supported exposures of the moon, of starfields at various elevations above the northern horizon, and of the relatively nearby farmyard lights of the mercury vapor type. Exposures were of varying lengths, including some which we asked Pring to time using the clock in his car.

We timed Pring separately as he recounted the incident. Although his original exposures were some eight minutes long (as judged by the length of the star trails with which one cannot argue), he had stated that while his camera shutter was open on "time" for the critical photograph the lights which have caused all the controversy passed over his car in a matter of seconds and imprinted their trailed images on the photo. Our timing of his re-enactment gave 9 seconds for the passage of the lights.

PRING STATED THAT THE LIGHTS DEPARTED DUE SOUTH,

but as we noted in the March-April issue, the lights on the photo "departed" to the southeast, as unassailably shown by the star trails the lights traversed. Yet, on the spot and confronted with this fact, Pring continued to insist that the lights departed directly south, and pointed in a direction which was within a few degrees of due south.

On the cover of this issue we first present Pring's original photo, and then a photo which shows remarkably similar features. It was taken with his Minolta 35 mm camera, with a 28 mm focal length lens, at f/2.5, using ASA 400 speed film, with an exposure of about 7 minutes. The faint curved lines are trails made by overhead stars, since the camera was directed to the zenith.

Then, Mr. Pring was asked to swing his camera toward the east while still on the tripod, shutter remaining open, and then to swing the camera back and forth a number of times both horizontally and vertically. The results give the solution to the mystery. These bright trails, under close examination, exhibit the same "strobe effect" shown by the trails on the original photo and their separation and light-ratio on the test photo match exactly those of the mystery lights on the original photo.

THE CONCLUSION IS INESCAPABLE:

Pring must have inadvertently failed to close the shutter of his camera (because of the excitement on seeing the bright lights pass over his car, which he insists did happen) and, as he went to remove the camera from the tripod, swung the camera first along a northeast line and then at right angles to the southeast. Momentary pauses produced the little circular spots along the "trajectory."

Mercury vapor farmyard lights operate on a 60-cycle alternating current. Therefore, for an instant every 120th of a second the light is "off." Fortunately, the human eye cannot respond to this rapid flicker and anything faster than twenty flickers a second goes undetected. Otherwise, watching TV screens which present a new picture every 30th of a second would be most annoying!

Thus, formally, the Center suggests that the source of the Pring mysterious photographed lights is quite clear: two farm lights at a distance of between ¼ and ½ mile. The reasons:

1) It was apparent in watching Mr. Pring operate his camera at night that he was unfamiliar with astronomical

photography or with the operation of his camera under nighttime conditions. With all due respect, we state that the shutter of his camera could not have been closed until after Mr. Pring proceeded to remove the camera from the tripod.

2) Despite our experience in such matters, both Dr. Hynek and I judged the guilty farmlights to be too distant to have registered as strongly as they did when the camera was swung past the line of sight to the lights. Not until we saw the test photo, shown on the cover of this issue, were we convinced. We can easily understand why Mr. Pring would have been similarly misled.

3) As stated before, Pring asserts that the lights left due south, which cannot be true if what he saw is what he photographed. Thus, it is certainly possible that, far from being a hoaxster, Mr. Pring simply did not photograph what he said he saw directly over his car, because as the star trails show, his camera was not pointing directly upward!

4) Pring took a photograph on Nov. 18, 1981, of a sausage-shaped light, near the horizon. Calculation shows that the moon was in that exact location, just rising. The sausage shaped image must, therefore, be the result of the rising moon shining through cloud strata; this again casts doubts on his discriminatory powers.

5) Most significantly, we have reenacted the event, using the witness' own camera, and have been able to obtain an extremely similar result under similar conditions. To argue that a UFO appeared and simulated the appearance of a mercury vapor light is peurile.

Yet despite all the evidence regarding the nature of the photograph, we have a sane witness insisting that he saw something unusual that night and was physically affected by it. In light of this, we asked Mr. Pring whether he would consent to a polygraph test for the record: He agreed without hesitation. Accordingly, Mr. Pring was brought, at Center expense, to the Chicago area for an examination which was administered by Dr. Jeffrey Gwynne, a Forensic Specialist for the past 18 years and the Director of the Institute for Advanced Criminal Science Studies at Reed College in Chicago.

Dr. Gwynne and Mr. Pring were closeted for the customary preliminary interview in order for Dr. Gwynne to formulate suitable control questions and to get better acquainted with his client, a standard procedure, when a most unexpected development occurred, leading Dr. Gwynne to call off the proposed test. This was done on the grounds that the situation had suddenly changed so radically that Dr. Gwynne admitted that he would not know now what relevant questions to ask Mr. Pring! The case had suddenly become much more complex than a matter of what lights were photographed.

DURING THE PRIVATE INTERVIEW IT HAD SUDDENLY EVOLVED THAT MR. PRING HAD NOT TOLD US THE WHOLE STORY. A RELATIVELY "SIMPLE" CE-I CASE HAD SUDDENLY BECOME A CE-III CASE, COMPLETE WITH MISSING TIME, AN ABDUCTION, AND EXAMINING ENTITIES!

Dr. Hynek and I felt somewhat like a defense attorney must feel when his client suddenly changes his story on the witness stand and presents new evidence unsuspected even by his attorney! Mr. Pring, it turns out, did not tell us about the missing time and other matters because he felt that no one would believe him. Under Dr. Gwynne's interview technique, Mr. Pring apparently decided it would be best to divulge the whole, much more involved, story.

The Center quite agrees that the situation demanded that the polygraph test be postponed pending further investigation of the case. This new evidence, of course, in no way detracts from the solution of the mystery of the original Pring photo...just farmyard lights. However, it may well be that Mr. Pring did see other lights, quite common in CE-III cases, but which were not photographed. But the fact that he failed to tell us that he and his wife arrived home one and one-half hours later than they should have on the morning of Aug. 12, which he certainly could have done at the time of our first interview, turns this case into a new ball game. Mr. Pring probably did not know the significance of "missing time" in UFO reports.

Since the Pring case has now taken on a new dimension, further investigation with Mr. Pring's full cooperation, will be necessary, and this will be done, funds and time permitting.

Thus, an intriguing photo has been given a mundane explanation with a different twist. The Pring case illustrates the necessity for a careful on-site investigation of UFO reports involving photographs, without which no firm conclusions can be drawn regarding the validity of the photographs. Our skeptics might take note of the Pring case when readying their next salvo; we publish our IFO's. Do they publish their UFOs?

Several readers responded to our "contest" in which solutions to the Pring photograph were requested. Only one, however, came to the same conclusion we have stated above. This was, oddly enough, a letter from a former student of Dr. Hynek's, Jeff Kretsch who, with an associate. Marc Shumaker, pointed out that farm lights were a most likely candidate. They, however, suggested that "the witness is either lying or is deluded." In the light of the new evidence we must certainly withhold any judgment of that nature. It is possible that Mr. and Mrs. Pring did have a "genuine Close Encounter of the Third Kind," the details of which will probably continue to be revealed.

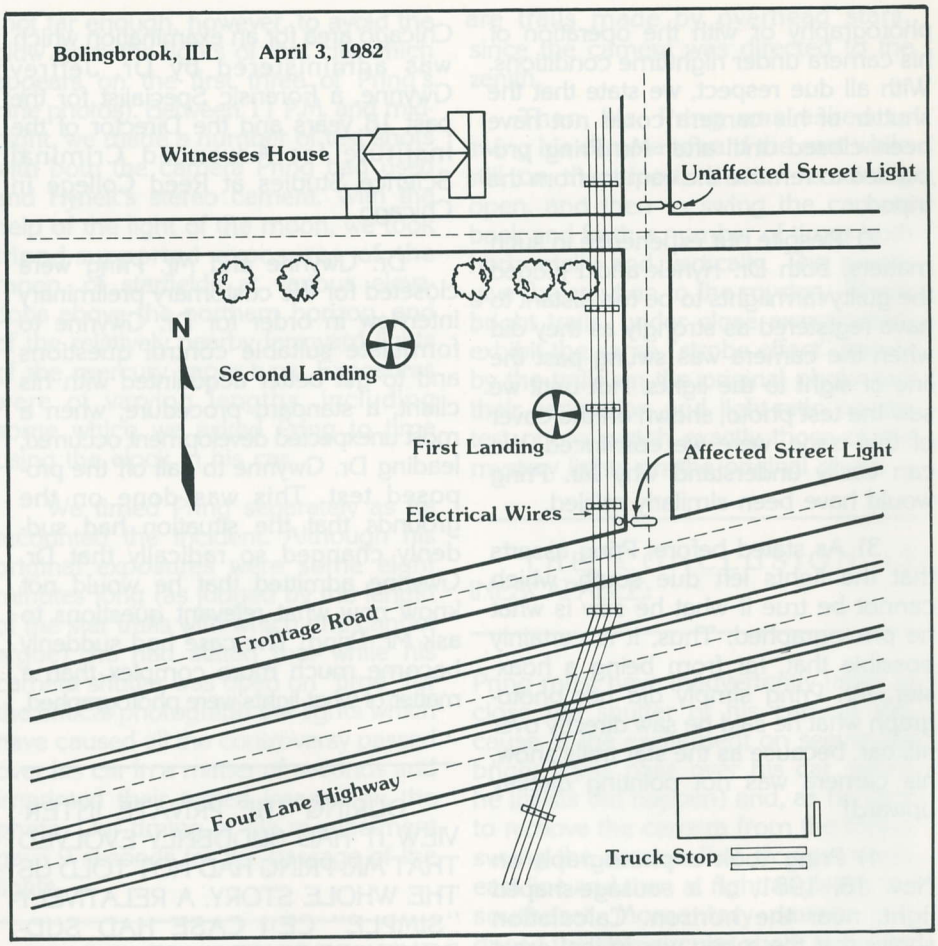
The only question remaining at the moment is: which of the two winning respondents wants the prize of the crocheted UFO? KJR

A Blue Domed-Disc For Bolingbrook

Fred Merritt

Cases selected for inclusion in this publication are chosen on the basis of their relevance to their potential value in advancing our knowledge of the UFO phenomenon. Here is a case which may have such potential, since it describes a disc which was not seen until it "manifested" on the ground, its arrival having been noted only as a brilliant streak of light coming down from the sky. It is to wonder (Ed. note).

TYPE: CE-I
DATE: Saturday, April 3, 1982
TIME: About 3 A.M.
DURATION: Intermittent over 2½ hr. period
WITNESSES: 1 + 4
PLACE: Bolingbrook, IL. (Suburb of Chicago)



After a full week of teaching bilingual classes in a Chicago school, "Maria" was looking forward to a restful weekend in her suburban home with her sons, Edward (13) and George (14). Instead, she got very little rest, received quite a fright from recurring UFO events, and discovered how futile it is to call official agencies for help in such a situation.

Maria had gone to bed after an evening watching TV. At about 3 A.M. she was awakened by a peculiar sound ..."like a blender running in a box," and the wall of the bedroom was illuminated by a bright blue light. This lasted for about 5 seconds (after she was awake), stopping abruptly. Within ten minutes, the light and distinct buzzing recurred twice more...each time lasting about 5 seconds.

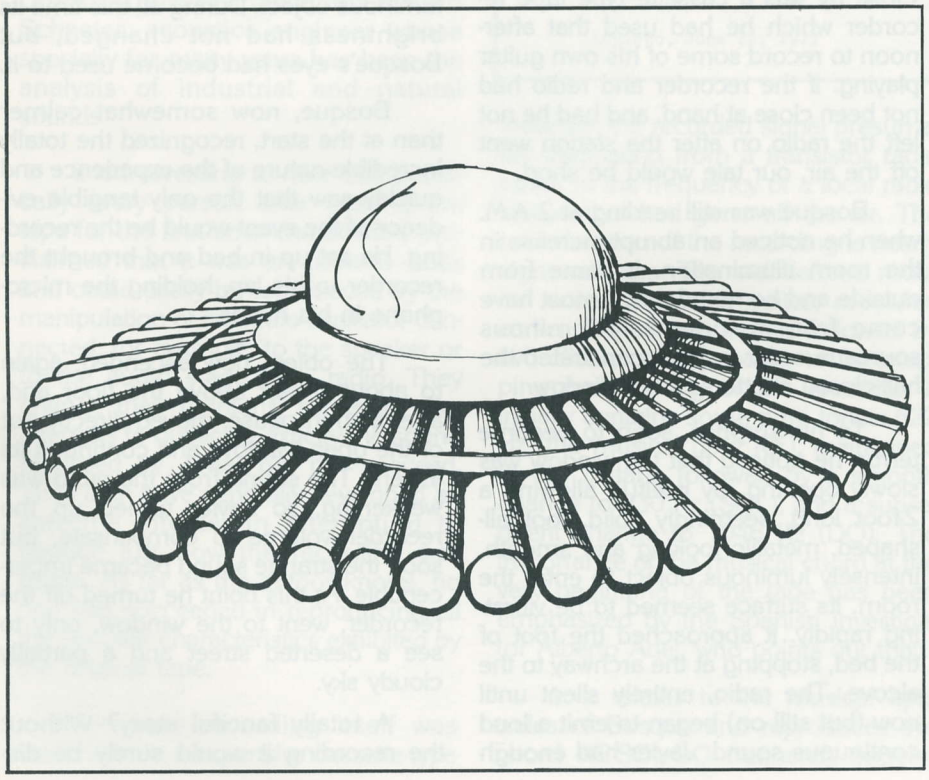
Maria got up, expecting to see a police car in the area, or possibly an accident on the highway. The weather was cloudy and very windy, with falling temperature. She saw a car and a truck pass on the highway (see sketch), but nothing unusual happened until about 3:20 A.M. when a slow moving truck came to a full stop on the highway, apparently reacting to the same thing she suddenly saw...a brilliant streak of light coming down from the sky into a vacant lot some 80 yards away. The streak quickly transformed into a domed disc with blue lights around the rim, which remained on or near the ground for 1 or 2 seconds, lighting up the area. It then rose so rapidly that it could only be distinguished as a streak of light, making the distinctive buzzing sound. Fascinated, Maria continued to watch. Perhaps three minutes later, the same object descended at a slight angle, but more slowly...perhaps ten feet per second. It remained about a foot off the ground, closer this time, about 50 yards from the house. The actual size of the disc, based on Maria's estimate of angles and distances, proves to be 27 feet in diameter. The blue lights, spaced evenly around the rim, with a ridge for each (see drawing), gave off a diffused light that illuminated the entire area, bright as day, at the same time striking Maria's face, making her feel "as if I were being photographed by a TV camera." After watching the landed UFO for what seemed to be a number of seconds (but in re-enactment timed at 5 seconds), Maria became frightened and ran to awaken her two sons. This took about 13 seconds. By this time the UFO was no longer visible, but the blue light and sound remained (also witnessed now by Edward; George apparently got there too late to see anything).

Maria telephoned her sister in Chicago (time placed at "exactly 3:30 A.M." by her sister) and talked for a few minutes, until she calmed down. A few minutes later, the buzzing sound returned for at least 30 seconds, seemingly coming from directly overhead.

Now very upset, Maria called the local police, who arrived in 5-8 minutes. They had cruised the area for 2 or 3 minutes in their two cars before they came to the door. They said they found nothing amiss (although one officer said he had seen a blue light in the sky) and suggested she keep her door locked (!) No formal report was filed, but the police records show "numerous calls around 3:50 A.M., reporting several power outages and blue flashes near the ground." The electric utility company apparently does not keep records of isolated power outages. Maria's house definitely did not experience a power failure at any time, as confirmed by an electric clock which reacts to any power interruption.

Maria and her sons talked for a few minutes and she made some instant coffee. At about 4 A.M. she lay down on the living room carpet, with her two sons on the couches. They were all scared and didn't want to sleep alone. Maria was aroused again by the blue light and buzzing sounds, again apparently directly over the house, which lasted about a minute. Afraid whatever it was might hit the house, but afraid to look out the window again, Maria phoned her sister once again (time estimated by sister as 3:50 A.M.). Although the sound and the light were still present during part of the call, Maria's sister did not pick up the buzzing over the phone. Once again the light and sound disappeared simultaneously. Maria was still frightened, and she started to pray. At that point she saw a single explosion of blue light near the southern horizon which lasted just an instant.

Now Maria called a major Chicago newspaper but was told that "there's nothing we can do."



Nothing more was seen or heard until almost daylight. At about 4:30 A.M. Maria saw 5 blue lights in a straight line, either stationary or moving slowly toward the house, but high up. The lights were arranged as if they were a section of the UFO but no structure was seen; just the blue lights and the buzzing sound.

Of interest is that she saw the electrical wires on either side of the vacant lot sparking...large sparks were falling to the ground. Both her sons saw and heard this, and they also reported a luminous blue ball, whose diameter was estimated to be 9 feet, just higher than the wires, giving off sparks that appeared to fall through the wires. The buzzing sound stopped and then the ball dimmed and faded out. A neighbor youth was awakened by the buzzing sound and blue light. He placed the time at 4:35 A.M. because at that time he gets up to run his regular paper route. During the sparking episode the street light went out, and remained out. However, this particular aspect of the sighting is suggestive of electrical short circuits and electrical phenomena, but would have nothing to do with the reported landings of a craft in the open field.

Meanwhile, Maria again called her sister, who places the time at about 4:35 A.M. She placed her last call to her sister at 5:10 A.M. and her sister arranged to spend the day with her. Together they later examined the landing sites, discovering what they took to be physical traces...matted grass at the nearer site and irregular bare spots at the more distant site. They took photos at the time.

Saturday evening they called the Air Force at Chicago's O'Hare airport and were told "it was a UFO." (Ed note: This would make a good story in itself!)

On Monday April 5 there was a heavy snow fall and when I first arrived two days later the area was still well-covered by snow. No unusual pattern

A Bizarre Event At Logrono: A Taped UFO Sound

As promised in the last issue, here is the account of the very strange experience of an Escolapian seminarist involving the recording of a sound ostensibly produced by a UFO. If true as stated, it simply means that much more attention must be paid to the "paranormal"aspects of the UFO phenomenon. Unfortunately, as with almost all foreign reports, first hand investigation was not feasible. Dr. Willy Smith. however, our Spanish specialist, has studied the original accounts and here presents his survey of this bizarre case. Because of the length of Dr. Smith's treatise, I have been obliged to exercise editorial prerogatives; the by-line, however, belongs entirely to Dr. Smith. I regret that space does not permit a fuller treatment. Any technical discussion of this case and requests for further technical details should be directed to Dr. Smith c/o CUFOS. ED.

Dr. Willy Smith

Logrono, in the Province of Logrono, Spain, is in a hilly region of Spain, far to the northeast of Madrid and not far from the Pyrenees mountains. It is isolated and far from any major city. It is here that the College of the Escolapian Priests is located and Javier Bosque, age 20 at the time of the event, was one of the seminarists, studying for the priesthood. He was the only witness to this encounter and, were it not for the recording of the sound which reportedly came through the radio during the presence of a miniature UFO, one would tend to dismiss the case as "just one of those things." The case can, however, be classified as follows:

TYPE: CE-II
DATE: June 22, 1972
DURATION: 8 minutes
WITNESSES: One
PLACE: Logrono, Spain

This case belongs to the very small family of cases in which the sound associated with the UFO has been recorded, and it is discussed now because of its possible relation to the St. Helens sound recording case (see our last issue, May-June, 1982).

Javier Bosque was reading in bed, which was located in an alcove in back of an archway. Next to him, on a small night table, a small transistor radio was playing softly, tuned to a local station. Close by was a cassette-type tape recorder which he had used that afternoon to record some of his own guitar playing. If the recorder and radio had not been close at hand, and had he not left the radio on after the station went off the air, our tale would be short.

Bosque was still reading at 2 A.M. when he noticed an abrupt increase in the room illumination. It came from outside and he noted that it must have come from an intensely luminous source in order to have penetrated the half-closed shutters of his window.

To his surprise, soon to become terror, he noticed that the window was slowly opening, by itself(!), allowing a 2-foot long, seemingly solid, football-shaped, metallic looking and smooth, intensely luminous object to enter the room. Its surface seemed to be vibrating rapidly. It approached the foot of the bed, stopping at the archway to the alcove. The radio, entirely silent until now (but still on) began to emit a loud continuous sound. Javier had enough presence of mind to reach out from under the covers and start the recorder. Otherwise, he lay flat and hidden, the bed covers almost to his eyes.

The UFO descended from about 6 feet above the floor to about 15 inches above it. It then hovered and, after a short pause, a beam of light of the same intensity as the object itself, and of about 2 inches in diameter, suddenly appeared. This was no ordinary light beam, but one which seemed to extend like a telescopic antenna (a procedure reported several times in past literature) toward him. It seemed solid and with well defined edges. It was not vibrating as the surface of the object was.

This most unusual beam extended itself toward the night table until it touched the transistor radio twice, and even moved it slightly. Then the beam retracted to half its original length, changed its angle, and advanced again, this time to touch the recorder. It did not move it, presumably because it was heavier. Now the beam slowly and deliberately retracted back into the luminous object. During all this time its brightness had not changed, but Bosque's eyes had become used to it.

Bosque, now somewhat calmer than at the start, recognized the totally incredible nature of the experience and quickly saw that the only tangible evidence of the event would be the recording. He sat up in bed and brought the recorder to his lap, holding the microphone in his hands.

The object now ascended, again to about 6 feet above the floor and, after a short pause, moved directly out of the open window, and continued its ascent. The sound from the radio was weakening, so Javier turned up the recorder volume to compensate, but soon the strange sound became imperceptible. At this point he turned off the recorder, went to the window, only to see a deserted street and a partially cloudy sky.

A totally fanciful story? Without the recording it would surely be dis-

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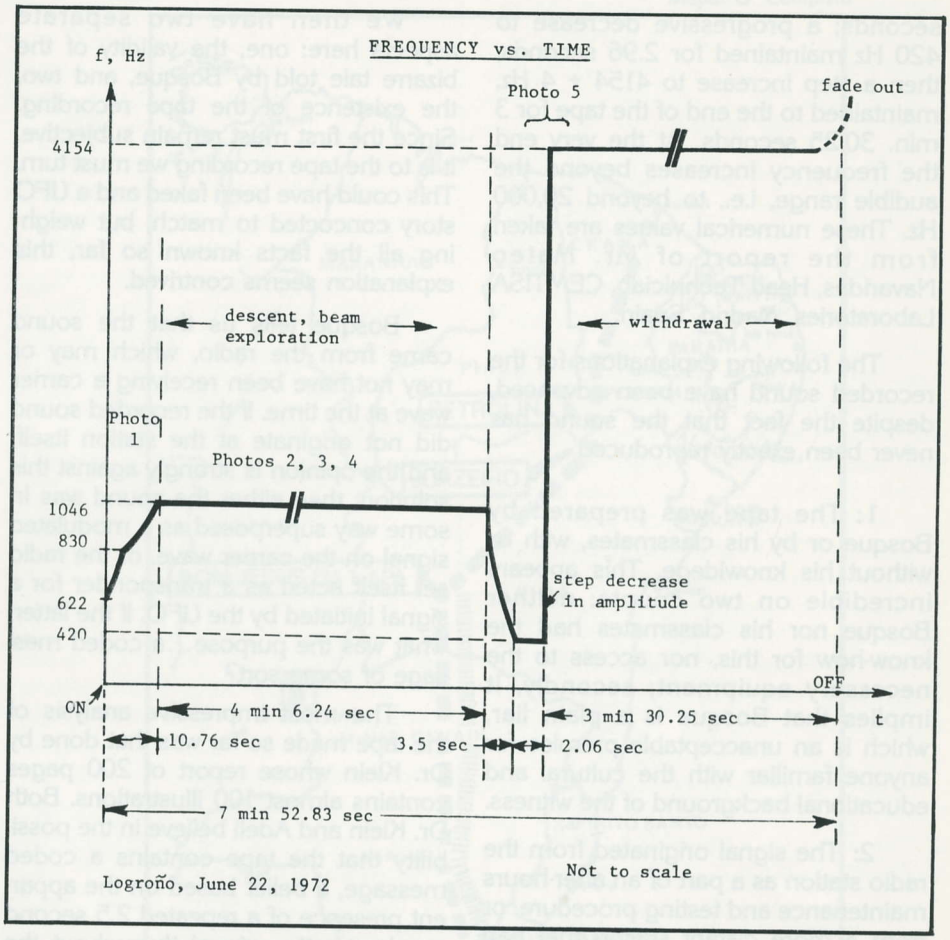
(A Blue Domed-Disc, concluded)

was evident as the snow slowly melted and on April 15 when the snow was completely gone, Rodeghier and I found everything quite normal. The photos taken on the day of the event showed nothing and the Center magnetometer registered only background readings.

Maria remains quite interested in and concerned about the sightings, but is frustrated that no one could provide a satisfactory explanation or take any action. In this we can surely sympathize; unfortunately, it is a well-recognized characteristic of this unique field.

IUR

missed as perhaps a religious vision one might ascribe to an inmate of a priestly college. But the recording? A fake? Analysis under the auspices of the Center for UFO Studies, conducted by Mr. Schecter (who also conducted the tests on the St. Helens tape) shows that, unlike the St. Helens recording, this one could have been simulated with proper electronic equipment. (This has been contested by others who have analyzed the tape). But such equipment under these circumstances, in a very rural region of Spain, and in the hands of a seminarist?



Through the years this tape recording has made the rounds of many laboratories and has been studied by many experts, ours at the Center being but the last in a long line. Among these were the CEMTISA laboratory in Madrid, Prof. Antonio Buenasuerte (not his real name) of the University of Barcelona, Prof. C. R. Klein of the University of Rio de Janiero, Stuart Stoll of the Zenith Radio Corp., Alain Esterle of GEPAN, Toulouse France, and Howard Schecter, acoustics engineer whose specialty for many years has been the analysis of industrial and natural sounds.

It is interesting to note that practically every person after hearing the tape for the first time immediately proclaimed that it was an obvious hoax and could easily be reproduced by the manipulation of an audio oscillator connected, for example, to the speaker or to the audio stage of a radio. They change their opinions, however, after attempts to duplicate exactly the sound recorded by Javier did not succeed. They then have generally developed an extreme interest in attempting to deduce just how the recording was made. As far as the author knows, no one has succeeded in reproducing all the peculiar characteristics exhibited by the original tape.

The tape recording itself was made with an inexpensive cassette-type recorder, the recorded signal presumably originating from a transistor radio tuned to the frequency of a local radio station that had gone off the air. The total duration of the recording is nearly eight minutes. The well-defined musical notes from the guitar, recorded earlier that afternoon, are followed by two clicks, corresponding to the stopping and starting of the recorder. It initially contains some pure tones: 622 Hz (the musical note RE), maintained for an instant, followed by a smooth change to 830 Hz (SOL), and a subsequent change to 1046 Hz (DO). The importance of the musical chord at the very beginning of the tape has been emphasized by the Spanish investigator Alberto Adel, who points out that:

1: It relates to the musical aptitudes of Bosque and reproduces the chord RE-SOL-DO frequently appearing in guitar playing (Ed note: He neglects to mention the peculiar fact that whoever or whatever was responsible for producing the sound, politely waited to produce this chord until Bosque had turned on the recorder. It wasn't turned on until he had already been listening to the "UFO-radio" sound for a short period).

2: An after-hours testing by a radio station would hardly contain such a chord.

3: It gives the "program" recorded on the tape a definite beginning (even though the sound had been going on before the tape recorder was turned on).

The accompanying chart shows the brief chord, the frequency of 1046 + 2 Hz maintained for 4 minutes, 6.24

seconds; a progressive decrease to 420 Hz maintained for 2.96 seconds; then a step increase to 4154 + 4 Hz, maintained to the end of the tape for 3 min. 30.25 seconds. At the very end the frequency increases beyond the audible range, i.e., to beyond 20,000 Hz. These numerical values are taken from the report of Mr. Mateo Navaridas, Head Technician, CEMTISA Laboratories, Madrid, Spain.

The following explanations for the recorded sound have been advanced, despite the fact that the sound has never been exactly reproduced.

1: The tape was prepared by Bosque or by his classmates, with or without his knowldege. This appears incredible on two counts: neither Bosque nor his classmates had the know-how for this, nor access to the necessary equipment; secondly, it implies that Bosque is a plain liar, which is an unacceptable premise for anyone familiar with the cultural and educational background of the witness.

2: The signal originated from the radio station as a part of an after-hours maintenance and testing procedure, or from a more distant station that had previously been blanked out by the local station. Professor Buenasuerte holds that there are serious drawbacks to this idea:

a: The complexity of the signal, particularly the modulation in amplitude. Although changes in frequency are common in test broadcasts, it would serve no purpose to introduce modulation in amplitude with the observed characteristics and which, also, would require additional circuitry.

b: There is no static observed on the Bosque tape. Even a local station record should have some background static, and a distant station would surely have this.

c: The events occurred as narrated by Bosque. This is the opinion of the original investigator, Alberto Adell Sabates.

We then have two separate aspects here: one, the validity of the bizarre tale told by Bosque, and two, the existence of the tape recording. Since the first must remain subjective, it is to the tape recording we must turn. This could have been faked and a UFO story concocted to match, but weighing all the facts known so far, this explanation seems contrived.

Bosque tells us that the sound came from the radio, which may or may not have been receiving a carrier wave at the time. If the recorded sound did not originate at the station itself, and the opinion is strongly against this solution, then either the sound was in some way superposed as a modulated signal on the carrier wave, or the radio set itself acted as a transponder for a signal initiated by the UFO. If the latter, what was the purpose...a coded message of some sort?

The most impressive analysis of the tape made so far was that done by Dr. Klein whose report of 200 pages contains almost 100 illustrations. Both Dr. Klein and Adell believe in the possibility that the tape contains a coded message, a belief based on the apparent presence of a repeated 2.5 second synchronization signal throughout the tape. They feel that the "hidden message" could be transformed into a 50 lines by 50 points pattern, having enough resolution to transmit information like numbers or symbols.

This is where the case rested until the Center's audio expert Mr. Schecter made his analysis of the tape. His preliminary conclusions are:

1: Unlike the St. Helens recording (for which he could suggest no obvious way of producing a sound that had a remarkable absence of even harmonics) this recording he felt could be reproduced by suitable and not too sophisticated electronic equipment.

2: To test for the suggested "hidden coded messages" would require considerable professional (and expensive) additional work which at the moment he is not in a position to offer.

3: He does not entirely rule out the possibility that the sound contains a fine structure not discernible by the standard testing procedure he was limited to using at this time.

References

1. STENDEK, No. 10, September 1972
2. STENDEK, No. 13, June 1973
3. FSR VOL. 19, No. 2, March-April 1973
4. Actas del Primer Congreso Nacional de Ufologia, Barcelona, Febrero 1078
5. Personal communication from Alberto Adell Sabates IUR

Washington, NC UFO Photo Up-Date

Those ASSOCIATES of the Second and Third Kinds who read in the June/July ASSOCIATE NEWSLETTER of the reported January 1982 photographic case and saw the first four prints will be interested to learn that two additional prints have been received. They are apparently a part of the set of eight taken, since the image size, print detail and star background are the same as in the others presently under investigation. Findings will appear in the ASSOCIATE NEWSLETTER next month. IUR

Favorable Response To Proposed 1983 Tour

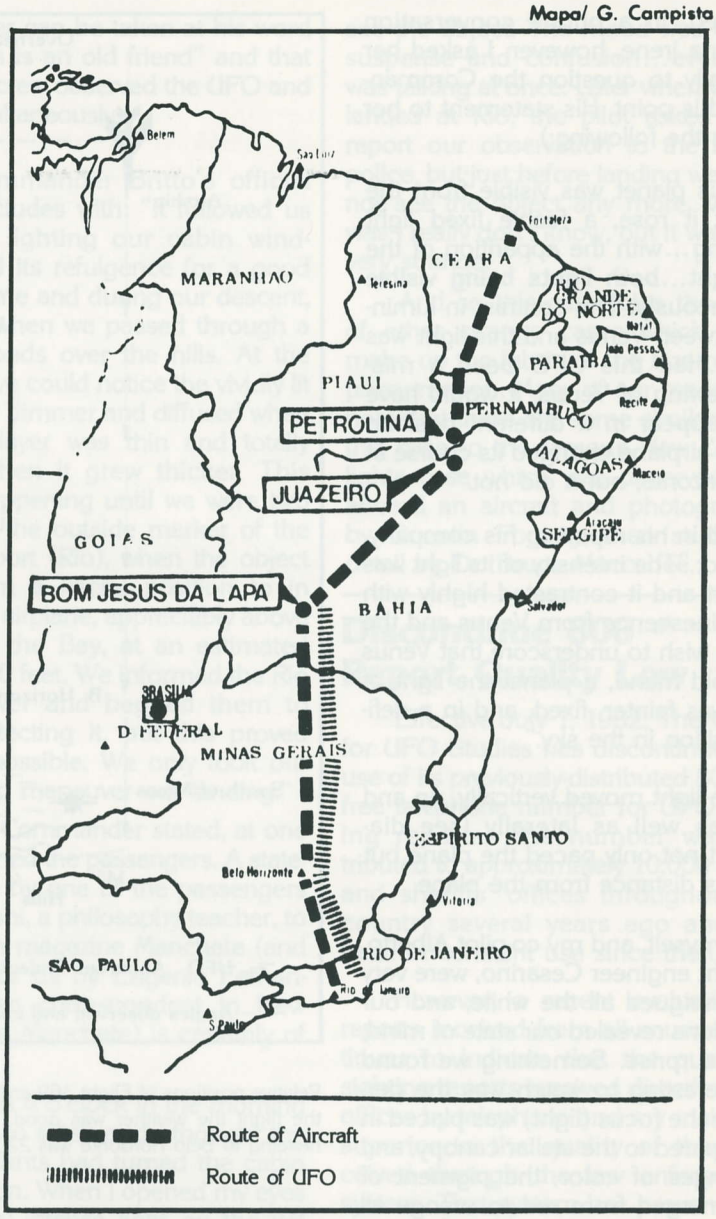
The response to the announcement in the last issue of the IUR regarding a proposed tour with Mimi and Allen Hynek to the Third London International UFO Congress, August 26-29, 1983 has been quite favorable. Enough names have already been received that the tour will proceed as planned. Although the size of the tour group will be held to less than 20 persons, there still are openings for interested persons. Obviously, there is still time for final arrangements to be modified according to the interests of those participating.

Therefore, those interested persons, including those who have already contacted us, are invited to indicate by mail if they wish to have the group go earlier or stay later than the dates of the Congress to visit Edinburgh and other points of interest. Please write to P.O. Box 1402, Evanston, IL 60204. IUR

The Climactic UFO Case Of The Winter 1982 Brazilian "Flap"

TYPE: NOCTURNAL LIGHT
DATE: FEB. 8, 1982
TIME: 3:11 to 4:33 A.M.
DURATION: 1 hr. 22 min.
WITNESSES: Primary: Crew and passengers of VASP Fl. # 169
Secondary: Crews of two commercial aircraft in vicinity
PLACE: Over Parnambuco to Rio de Janiero

Mapa/ G. Campista



Courtesy of: Jornal do Brazil

According to our Brazilian informant, Dona Irene Granchi (through whose kindness we were kept in touch by phone and mail with the details of this case), Brazil experienced a UFO flap of a few weeks duration in February 1982. This present case, a highlight of the wave, occurred about midway in the flap and caused a great stir in the Brazilian Press and among the Brazilian press representatives in the United States who also kindly relayed information to us.

The following synopsis of this very significant UFO event is drawn from two documents: one, the official report of Flight Commander Gerson Maciel de Britto to VASP Director of Operations, and two, the Commander's personal statement to Dona Irene made at her home on Feb. 22, 1982. Dona Irene kindly translated the Commander's official report and his personal statement to her from the Portuguese. The gist of the Commander's report and relevant statements from his commentary to Dona Irene follows:

"We took off at 0150 hours on our scheduled route and the flight proceeded normally until we were 33 minutes from Petrolina (see map). I observed to the left of our airship a 'luminous focus,' similar at first to a runway light, or the landing light of another airship. As we had not received any information from Radio Recife as to air traffic or any Air Force special missions in that sector...I started signalling with our headlights. Even though this was a remote possibility, there could perhaps be some uncontrolled traffic around. Any airship would have observed the signalling and would have responded, and they would have to be tuned to 126.9 to fly at that level and in the proximity of a commercial airway. We received no return either by light of by radio.

(Ed Note: When this case first came to the attention of ufologists in the United States, the solution seemed simple: Venus was indeed visible on the left side of the aircraft at that time, having just risen. Anything that "accompanies" an aircraft for well over an hour could fit the description of a celestial object. Thus, this case was quickly

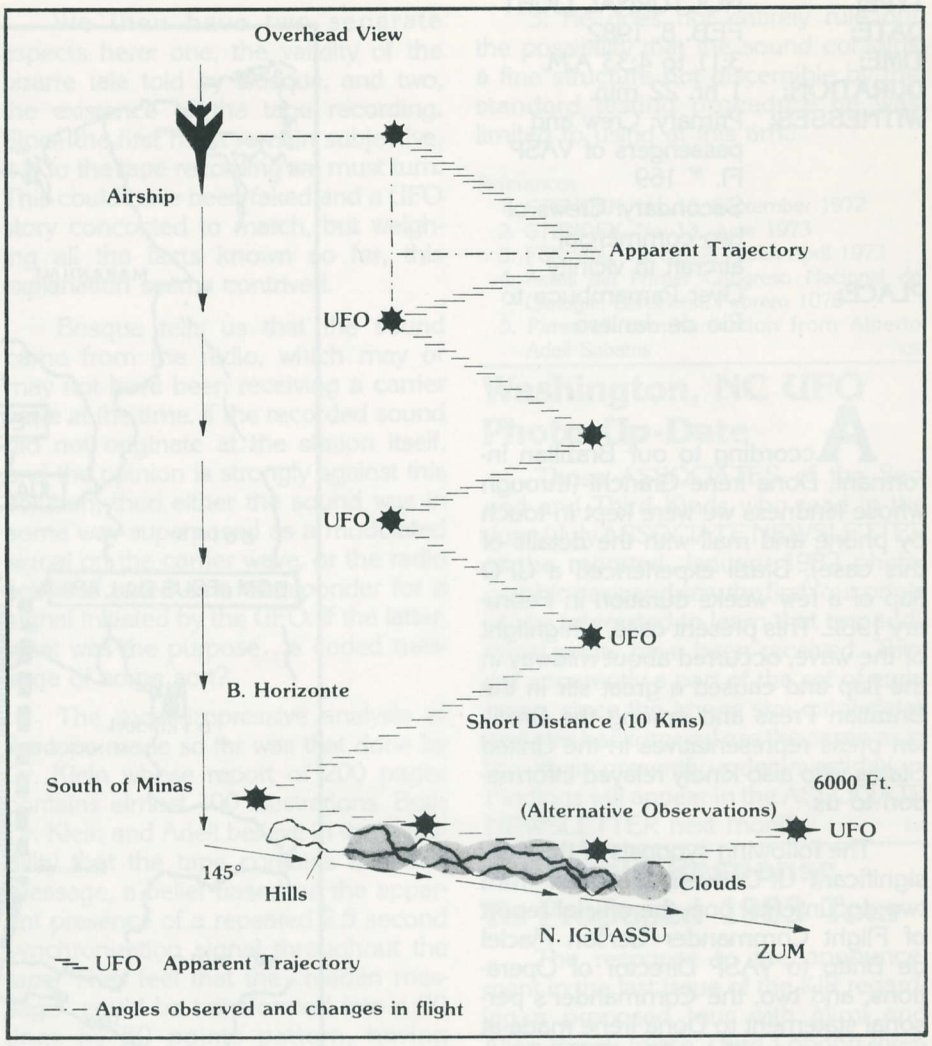
dismissed. In a phone conversation with Dona Irene, however, I asked her specifically to question the Commander on this point. His statement to her contains the following:)

"This planet was visible from the moment it rose, a feeble fixed light coinciding...with the apparition of the other light...**both lights being visible simultaneously.** The contrast in luminosity between Venus and this light was garish...Had this UFO been a mistaken viewing of Venus, it would have had to appear in a different position after the airplane changed its course at Belo Horizonte, but it did not."

And in his report to his company, he stated: "The intensity of its light was compact and it contrasted highly with the luminescence from Venus and the stars...I wish to underscore that Venus is our old friend, a planet the light of which was fainter, fixed, and in a definite position in the sky."

The light moved vertically, up and down, as well as laterally (see diagram). It not only paced the plane but varied its distance from the plane.

"I, myself, and my co-pilot Alberto, and flight engineer Cesarino, were very much intrigued all the while, and our expressions revealed our state of mind, that of surprise. Something we found very interesting to watch was the perspective the focus (light) was placed in as compared to the stellar canopy, and its changes of color, the pigment of which merged from red to orange all along its periphery, while the nucleus and other portions of it kept predominantly white and bluish. Its power of luminescence was incredible (a passenger related that she woke up with a start thinking that the cabin lights had been turned on) as was the relative speed it developed as it changed position, traveling vertically and longitudinally. As we had our automatic pilot going, our flight was stabilized, and there could not be the slightest doubt that the motion of the light was not illusory.



Relative positions of Flight 169 and the UFO as seen from above them, looking earthward. Along all the flight the weather was good, visibility was unlimited, without the slightest turbulence. Flight heading to Belo Horizonte was 220°, 196° to Pirai and 145° to Rio de Janeiro.

"After having put ourselves in touch with BRASILIA CENTER...we requested traffic information...and we reported to BRASILIA all the details of what we were seeing. As BRASILIA had nothing to say, we requested that any traffic flying in that sector...should also attempt to observe the phenomenon. BRASILIA then informed us that AEROLINEAS ARGENTINA 159 was flying behind our traffic, at a significant distance, direct to Buenos Aires. It confirmed our observation (on tape)... later we had TRANSBRAZIL 177 entering the BRASILIA frequency and, upon being questioned, they confirmed the observation in all its details...I then alternately went on signalling with my headlights to obtain a possible response, but by that time we realized that we were dealing with an unidentified flying object with a very advanced technology, the nature of which we could not fathom, but we knew that it possessed incredible potentialities of speed and locomotion and changes of color...

"After having received confirmation of what we had been watching from two other airliners following distinct courses from ours, with different angles of observation, with the same judgment of details, it showed we were obviously watching something irrefutably real. After flying over Belo Horizonte, about three or four minutes after this, there occurred what we might term the climax of the UFO event. I decided to call the rest of the crew and the passengers to watch, but was careful to do so without causing any disturbance or anxiety at the sight of the UFO in all its splendor. Either by coincidence or not. CINDACTA (Integrated Center for Airborne Traffic) called us (taped) informing us that it had detected a blip (radar) at our 9 o'clock position and eight miles from our ship."

It is interesting to note that Commander Pravato, of TRANSBRAZIL 177, watched the UFO flying alongside VASP #169 and the newspapers Folha de Sao Paulo, the Jornal do Brasil and O Globo of Rio, all reported him as saying that he saw a large colored light, the size of a 16" color TV set (!) at about 8 or 9 miles from the VASP plane, following it alongside. His crew endorsed his statement. The Aerolineas Agentina plane, slightly farther off, reportedly registered the UFO on their radarscope.

As to the VASP crew members, first officer Alberto de Britto and flight engineer Cesarino both confirmed their commander's statement and the engineer said that the UFO lighted up his instrument panel.

As is usual, officialdom did its best to play down the event. The head of the National Observatory in Rio spoke learnedly (?) of rare atmospheric phenomena such as 'tropical aurora borealis' (a contradiction in terms) while CINDACTA, reports Dona Irene, was "trying by every means to hush down the facts and other organs were spreading rumors contradictory to the facts."

The planet Venus, so often the culprit, was innocent this time, if the Commander can be taken at his word that "Venus is an old friend" and that he and his crew observed the UFO and Venus simultaneously.

Commander Britto's official report concludes with: "It followed us alongside, lighting our cabin windshield in all its refulgence for a good length of time and during our descent, as well as when we passed through a layer of clouds over the hills. At the latter time we could notice the vividly lit object grow dimmer and diffused when the cloud layer was thin and totally eclipsed when it grew thicker. This went on happening until we were two miles from the outside marker of the Galeao Airport (Rio), when the object moved from a lateral position to in front of our airplane, appreciably above the end of the Bay, at an estimated level of 6000 feet. We informed the Rio control tower and begged them to attempt detecting it, but this proved not to be possible. We only took our eyes off it to maneuver our landing."

As the Commander stated, at one point he alerted the passengers. A statement made by one of the passengers Eliane Belashi, a philosophy teacher, to the Brazilian magazine **Manchete** (and translated for us by Eugenie Fernandez, Brazilian correspondent in New York City for Manchete) is certainly of interest:

"Around 4 o'clock in the morning I was trying to sleep and I thought the flight attendants had turned the cabin lights back on. When I opened my eyes I saw a very intense light on the left side of the plane, exactly where my seat was. The light was very, very strong. A few minutes later the pilot woke us up and told us over the intercom what was happening. He said he wanted a few eye witnesses because the radar was not detecting any objects in that area.

"He had reported to air traffic control that the object had been following them for ten minutes. The object was spreading flashes of light. The passengers ran to the left side of the plane to see the object. The mood was one of suspense and confusion...everybody was talking at once. Later when we had landed at Rio, the pilot asked us to report our observation to the federal police, but just before landing we could not see the object any more. What it was I really don't know, but it was very, very strange."

And so this case joins the horde of other strange cases which go to make up the fabric of the bizarre UFO phenomenon. Many of our readers will note that there are some similarities in this case to the famous New Zealand lights case which was observed from aboard an aircraft and photographed by Quentin Fogarty, then studied in detail by Dr. Bruce Maccabee. IUR

Discontinue 800 # Report Quality Low

Effective July 1, 1982, The Center for UFO Studies has discontinued the use of its previously-distributed 800 toll-free telephone number for UFO sighting reports. The number was distributed to approximately 10,000 police and sheriffs' offices throughout the country several years ago and has been in constant use since then.

However, a recent evaluation of reports received from all sources continues to indicate that the quality of sighting reports received directly to our offices by telephone and my mail is far superior to the quality of those received through the law enforcement system. That system has proven to be too strong a filter of reports. Cases of high strangeness are apparently very seldom reported to law enforcement or public media offices.

Reporting witnesses should contact CUFOS directly by mail of by phone. The procedure is outlined on page 3 of this issue of the IUR. All ASSOCIATES are encouraged to notify their local enforcement agencies and news media of the new number and address to be given to reporting witnesses. IUR

Neillsville Visited: The Cop And The Light That Turned Night Into Day

As promised in our last issue (May-June 1982, p. 11), that one of the cases in the triad of "Nocturnal Rural Encounters" that had not been personally investigated by your editor, would be followed up, a personal follow-up was made in the interim. On the morning of Saturday, May 15, Officer Urban of the Clark County Traffic Department, based in Neillsville, WI, was kind enough to allow us to accompany him in his squad car to cover the exact route he followed on the night of his encounter (Feb. 24, 1982) and to re-enact as far as possible the events of the pre-dawn hours on that day. We timed the various phases of the encounter and took photographs along the way.

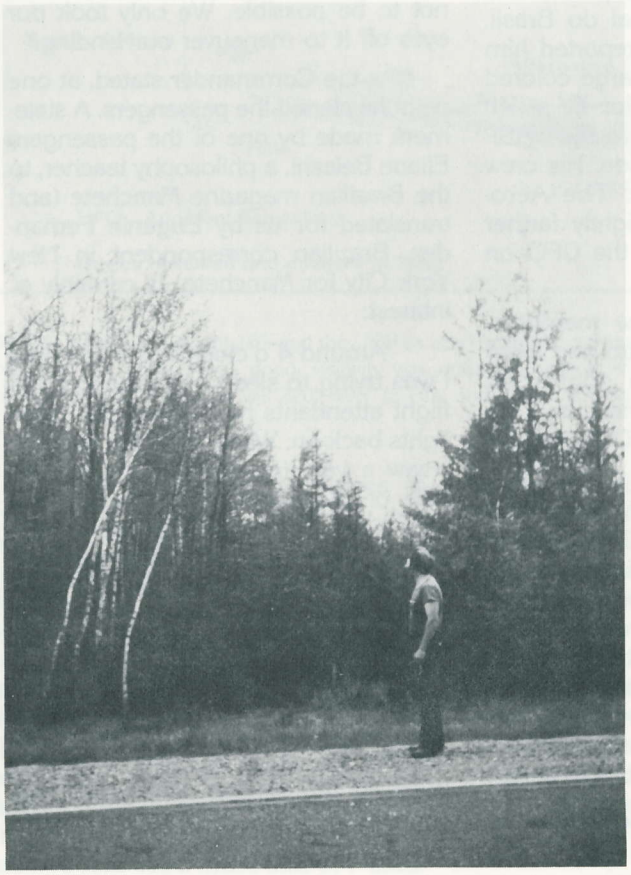
As all serious students of the UFO phenomenon know, there is simply no substitute for personal, on the spot, interviews with UFO encounter witnesses. Their experience "comes to life" for both them and the interviewer. The investigator can sense the meaning of the experience to the witness and he can note his reactions and feelings far better than can be done by just reading an account of the event or by talking about it in arm-chair comfort.

In the present case, it so happened that the engineer in charge of the 1-meter telescope at Northwestern University, with whom I have worked closely, lives in Willard, WI, a town of about 200 just ten miles from Neillsville. In fact, it is regularly patrolled by Officer Urban as a part of his beat. This provided an excellent opportunity for Mr. Pekol, our engineer, and me to visit with Officer Urban under very friendly and cooperative conditions. Riding in the squad car with him we retraced his route during the pre-dawn period of that night, stopping where he had stopped and timing the duration of the encounter. I can now add to the account given in our previous issue, particularly emphasizing Officer Urban's reactions to his experience in his own words.

As many of our readers will recall, Officer Urban had been 12 miles west of Neillsville, on regular routine patrol, about 5 A.M. on the morning of Feb. 24, 1982. He was in very familiar territory, having patrolled this area for years, an area in which he also frequently hunts. Suddenly, a very bright light above the tree tops, but shining through the tree branches, caught his attention. As he came to a relatively open area which gave him a fairly unobstructed view of the light, he drove his car onto the shoulder of the road and watched. He had never seen anything like this before. He listened, in those very quiet rural surroundings in the pre-dawn hours, for any sounds that might be associated with the light and the presumed craft. He heard none, and the light was too bright to allow him to make out the form of any object. But, let us hear it in his own words:

"Here is where I positioned my squad car (see photo)...right here. I looked at the light. It was extremely bright and I shut my engine and I listened. I didn't hear a sound of any sort or noise. Then the light got very, very intense and I could look into these woods and see for a distance of at least 200 yards into the woods. Before this happened, all I could see were black silhouettes of the trees along the road. I could now see these pine trees very vividly...this whole area was lit up. I could see all those trees," he told us as he swept his arm over a wide arc, indicating a wide compass of trees, "just about like I can see them now (daylight)."

Even now, as he recounted the happening at that February pre-dawn hour, he was visibly disturbed and almost a little incoherent as he described the event and his feelings



Officer Urban viewing the location of the intensely bright light. Note the wooded, rural nature of the site.

about it. He continued, sometimes repeating the things that affected him the most.

"I stepped from my vehicle," he related as he continued to re-enact the events of that morning, "and walked to the south shoulder of the road and just looked at the light (he had been going west and had parked on the north shoulder). The thing that struck me in awe is...well, our position out here right now...standing on this soft shoulder...looking at this light and nothing happening. Just stayed there like something was watching me. No other cars...hadn't met a vehicle the whole time I was out there. There was absolutely no sound coming from it."

As our readers will recall from the account in the last issue, the light was so bright that, on this completely moonless night, Urban was able to drive without headlights and to read the legal pad lying on the seat beside him as he continued westward in his squad car for a short distance. The light remained motionless and silent. He decided to turn around, did so, this time parking on the south shoulder of the road just across from his previous position.

Now the light began to move toward town and Urban followed. At one point the light crossed over the road ahead of him, remained on that side for a few miles, and then re-crossed to the original side. All this he described to us as we re-enacted his experience and pointed out those times the light was temporarily invisible because the light was behind the thick forest of young trees lining both sides of the road.

At no point was the object to which the light was presumably attached visible. The light was unflickering but shone with a steady glow which was brightest at the time Officer Urban first stopped his squad car.

It was after he had started following the object as it moved toward the town that he first contacted his Dispatcher. "I was reluctant to call him at first," Urban remarked. What was the dispatcher's reaction? "Skepticism!" But he did later tell his story to others and then what any UFO investigator would expect to happen, other UFO accounts began to surface, stories which up to then had never been reported.

"After I told my story," Urban related to us, "people began to tell about things they had seen. 'After all, he's a cop and all that' they probably said to themselves, and if he comes out and tells it like it was...why I guess it's all right (to talk)'". It is a very common experience of investigators to have UFO stories "come out of the woodwork" when they are investigating one particular case. Indeed, it is a temptation that generally should be overcome, to be distracted by what is sometimes a barrage of other UFO accounts; the wise investigator will hew to the line on the case at hand and later, if he has the time, will look into these other tales.

The light then was lost to Urban's view as he approached town, but that it passed over the town seems evident because just as he got to town, the street lights (which automatically are turned off photoelectrically as daylight approaches and turn on as night approaches) were just coming back on. Apparently, Urban's bright visitor had simulated daylight as it passed over town and then, as it left and darkness returned, the lights began to come on again.

This completes the follow-up. The case now joins that legion of unexplained Close Encounters of the Second Kind, most of which involve a very bright source of light. But whence the light? KJR

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The show is in storage in Wildwood, New Jersey and will be sold for $6,000.00 to the first cash offer. Buy it for producing income in your community or as a traveling exhibit; it can be loaded on a 24-foot van and delivered anywhere. It sets up in one day and can be loaded in two days. Additional photography negatives are available for expanding the exhibit for an additional $1,500.00. For additional information, call Dick Hobson at (612) 835-0705.

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UFO sightings in Africa are just as strange as those anywhere else in the world, and Mrs. Hind has done a careful job of investigating those in Zimbabwe and South Africa and of reporting them in this book, providing a fascinating glimpse at incidents otherwise unknown to the rest of the world. **$5.95**

FOREIGN UFO SIGHTINGS *from U.S. Government Files*

Obtained via "Freedom of Information" Act requests by "Citizens Against UFO Secrecy" (CAUS), there are 17 incidents from five countries — Algeria, Iran (two), Tunisia, Kuwait and Peru — described in varying degrees of detail and censorship. Dates range from Jan. 1975 to June 1980. **$3.50**

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD KNOW ABOUT UFOs IF THEY READ THEIR OWN DOCUMENTS, *by Peter Gersten, J.D.*

A paper presented at the 1981 MUFON Symposium, this version contains photocopies of the referenced documents. There is some overlap with other documentary listings also, such as the one above and one on page 9 of the catalog, since they were all obtained by the same route. **$8.00**

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